

## MISCELLANEOUS.

*Note on the Nomenclature of three Genera of Fossil Mammalia.*

By R. LYDEKKER, B.A., F.G.S., &amp;c.

IN the 'Catalogue of Fossil Mammalia in the British Museum' I have adopted the name *Ælurogale* (*Ailurogale*), Filhol, for an extinct genus of Felidæ, and *Stylodon*, Owen, for one of the Mesozoic Polyprotodont Marsupials. The name *Ælurogale* is, however, preoccupied by Fitzinger (Sitzb. Ak. Wiss. Wien, 1869, p. 77), who applied it to *Felis planiceps*; and Dr. Trouessart (Bull. Soc. Angers, xv. 1885, Cat. of Mamm. p. 92) has proposed in substitution the name *Ælurictis* (*Ailurictis*), which must be adopted, unless it prove, as I have suggested in part v. of the 'Catalogue,' that Cope's *Nimravus* is not generically separable. The name *Stylodon*, I am informed by Dr. G. Baur, is preoccupied by H. Beck in 1838 for a genus of Gastropoda in the work entitled 'Index Molluscorum præsentis ævi, Mus. Christiani Frederici,' fasc. i., Hafniæ. Since, however, Prof. Marsh's genus *Stylacodon* is probably not distinct from Owen's *Stylodon*, I think that this name may be at least provisionally adopted for the English genus, and in any case the name of the family may be changed from Stylodontidæ to Stylacodontidæ.

Finally, I gather from Dr. Rojer's recently published 'List of Fossil Mammalia' that Dr. M. Schlosser proposes to substitute the name *Haplogale* for my genus *Æluropsis* (which I have placed in the Felidæ). This substitution appears to rest on the existence of the name *Ælurops* (*Ailurops*); but since the names *Æluropsis* and *Ælurops* are founded upon totally different Greek words, I consider that it is unnecessary.

*On the Collection of Starfishes formed by the Cape-Horn Scientific Commission.* By M. E. PERRIER.

The collection of starfishes brought back by the scientific commission which remained in the region of Cape Horn during the years 1882 and 1883 includes no fewer than 553 specimens belonging to 38 species, of which 23 are new and 32 were wanting in the collections of the museum. This brings up to 57 the number of species of starfishes referred to the southern point of America. The examination of the numerous specimens which I have been able to observe in the collection of the museum shows great variability in each species in relation to the extreme diversity of conditions of existence presented to nearly sedentary animals by these coasts, which are so much broken up. It seems probable that of the species described a certain number will have to descend to the rank of simple varieties. Some among the 56 specimens of *Asterias sulcifera* which have been sent to me appear to approach *A. Brandti*,